



# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

Fish and Wildlife Service

For Release June 16, 1988

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**SPECIAL PROGRAMS PLANNED FOR 1988 DUCK STAMP'S**  
**FIRST DAY OF SALE; SOUVENIR CARDS GO ON SALE;**  
**CONTEST REGULATIONS CHANGE**

July 1 will be a big day for Duck Stamps. A national exhibit honoring the stamp, officially called the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, will open at the Smithsonian's Museum of American History in Washington, DC. On the same day, special first-day-of-sale ceremonies for the 1988-89 stamp, with the winning artist in attendance, will be held in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, and Washington, DC. In addition, the day will mark the official opening of the 1989-90 Duck Stamp Contest, which has several significant rule changes this year.

"By increasing awareness of the Duck Stamp through these special events, we hope to extend stamp sales beyond the traditional core of waterfowl hunters who are required to buy the stamp to hunt," said Frank Dunkle, director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "We would like all Americans to know that buying a Duck Stamp is a simple, direct way for anyone to make a contribution to conserve this Nation's wildlife habitat."

Money from the sale of the stamp is used to buy prime wetland habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge System. Hunters traditionally have made the largest financial contribution to the program, which raises approximately \$20 million annually. Since the Duck Stamp Program began in 1934, close to 4 million acres of wetlands have been purchased from the stamp's revenue.

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This year's stamp will cost \$10. In accordance with the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act passed by Congress in 1986, the price of the Duck Stamp will increase to \$12.50 in 1989, and then to \$15.00 in 1991.

### Special July Ceremonies Mark First Day of Sale

The first day of sale of the 1988-89 Federal Duck Stamp, designed by Daniel Smith of Eden Prairie, Minnesota, will be marked July 1 with special ceremonies held in both Eden Prairie and Washington, DC.

Daniel Smith will make a cross-country dash to be at both ceremonies to sign stamps and souvenir cards created from his winning painting of a lone snow goose flying over a marsh at dawn. Second- and third-place Duck Stamp contest winners and fellow Minnesotans Jim Meger and Jim Hautman will also be honored at the Eden Prairie ceremony. Later, Smith will fly to Washington, DC, to join officials from the Interior Department, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Postal Service, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the Smithsonian Institution in the second ceremony. Both events are open to the public.

The Washington ceremony will be held at the National Museum of American History in conjunction with the opening of the Smithsonian's special exhibition, "The Legacy Endures," a history of the Federal Duck Stamp program at the museum, located at 14th Street and Constitution Ave., NW. The show will run through December 1988.

### Souvenir Cards Also Available

Souvenir cards bearing a special pictorial representation of the 1988-89 stamp design, with the actual Federal Duck Stamp attached, will be available for sale at both ceremonies and by mail. Ten dollars from the sale of each souvenir card will pay for the 1988 Duck Stamp and will go into the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund. The remaining money will go to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, a non-profit organization which supports wildlife conservation projects.

Of a total of 10,000 cards, 1,750 will bear two first-day-of-sale U.S. Postal Service cancellations. The first cancellation, from Eden Prairie, Minnesota, will read "Snow Goose Station." A second cancellation, "Duck Stamp Station," will be made at the Headsville Post Office, part of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington.

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The first 750 cards will be numbered in gold. Numbers 1-10 will sell for \$150; numbers 11-100 will sell for \$75; and numbers 101-750 will sell for \$50. One thousand unnumbered cards with the two cancellations will sell for \$25 each. Over 8,000 additional mint cards bearing no cancellations will be available for \$18 apiece.

Souvenir cards can be ordered by mail from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation prior to and after the July 1 ceremonies. Send a check or money order and a written request for card numbers and quantities desired to: Duck Stamp Souvenir Cards, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Room 2725, Department of the Interior, 18th and C Streets NW., Washington, DC 20240.

#### Changes in Duck Stamp Contest Regulations

Regulations governing the annual Duck Stamp contest have been revised in order to ensure that all species of North American waterfowl eventually will be represented in the Duck Stamp series, thereby increasing its collection appeal.

The number of species of North American waterfowl which artists can depict for the 1988 contest has been limited to the following five:

- (1) Black-bellied Whistling Duck
- (2) Lesser Scaup
- (3) Spectacled Eider
- (4) Barrow's Goldeneye
- (5) Red-breasted Merganser

The contest opens July 1. All entries must be postmarked no later than midnight September 15, 1988. The Duck Stamp Contest judging will be held on Monday and Tuesday, November 7 and 8, at the Department of the Interior Auditorium, 18th and C Streets NW., Washington, DC. This event is free and open to the public.

The five species were selected from a list of nine which have never before appeared on a Federal Duck Stamp. An attempt was made to select a combination of species whose collective ranges cover the contiguous United States and Alaska.

Through an annual process of elimination established by the new regulations, all 42 species of North American waterfowl will become part of the Duck Stamp series by 1997. Copies of this year's Duck Stamp Contest regulations can be obtained from: Federal Duck Stamp Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Room 7349, Department of the Interior, 18th and C Streets NW., Washington, DC 20240.

In Appreciation  
From the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
For Investing in America's Wildlife

MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING AND CONSERVATION STAMP

VOID AFTER JUNE 30, 1989

\$10



*Snow Goose*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The purchase of this "Duck Stamp"  
helped buy wetlands for the  
National Wildlife Refuge System



*Charles G. Hest*  
Secretary of the Interior



*James D. Smith*  
Director, U.S. Fish  
and Wildlife Service



*Robert C. Jackson*  
Chairman, National Fish  
and Wildlife Foundation

*David Smith*  
Duck Stamp Artist